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DATE: DATE: January 3, 2012

To: Center Managers, Eastern Great Basin, Western Great Basin
Great Basin Dispatch Centers
Great Basin Coordinating Group

From: Sue Stewart, Chair Great Basin Coordinating Group

Subject: Efficiencies and Analysis of Great Basin Coordination Centers

In an effort to optimize dispatch and coordination operations within the Great Basin, the Great Basin Coordinating Group (GBCG) is initiating an assessment of shared efficiencies between the Western Great Basin Coordination Center and the Eastern Great Basin Coordination Center.

This effort is intended to identify a range of options for operational and organization improvement and identify opportunities for the Coordination Centers to become more efficient and cost effective. Scenarios evaluated will include combining Eastern and Western in the creation of a single Coordination Center for the Great Basin. The project will propose options for staffing, business practices, governance, technology, interoperability and potential location of facilities for a single coordination center. Once implemented, this effort is expected to result in a more efficient, cohesive and cost-effective coordination center to support interagency efforts and improve operations within the Great Basin.

This interagency effort will consist of subject matter experts and representation from the various agencies. Nelda St. Clair from BLM Nevada has been named the Project Manager and will lead the study and present recommendations to the Great Basin Coordinating Group. The Coordinating Group will consider safe operations and mission delivery, cost, opportunities to gain efficiencies and minimizing negative impacts to our employees when considering options. A Charter is being developed and a project plan and timeline will be presented to the Great Basin Coordinating Group in early April. A web site also is being developed and will contain information and specific goals and objectives and other information relevant to the project.

We look forward to this effort and recognize that our greatest assets are the dedicated, professional employees in our organizations and the strong partnerships we enjoy. These assets will be the foundation of an efficient coordination system for the Great Basin.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 801-625-5507, or via email at sastewart@fs.fed.us.

/s/ Sue Stewart, Chair GBCG